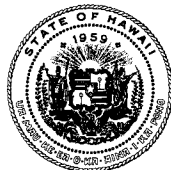


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
465 S. KING STREET, #103
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

RANDALL Y. IWASE
CHAIR

JAMES P. GRIFFIN
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September 17, 2018

Received & Inspected
SEP 24 2018
FCC Mailroom

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

USAC
Vice President of the High Cost Division
700 12th Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of Support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") Section 54.314

Dear Ms. Dortch and USAC's Vice President of the High Cost Division:

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company that Hawaiian Telcom, Inc. ("HTI") is eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii certifies for HTI that all federal high-cost support provided to HTI within Hawaii was used in the preceding calendar year (2017) and will be used in the coming calendar year (2019) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹ See the enclosed D&O No. 35689.

¹47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a) ("Certification. States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. High-cost support shall only be provided to the extent that the State has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section").

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September 17, 2018
Page 2

Applicant	Study Area Code
HTI	623100

If this letter does not fully satisfy the requirements for state certification of carriers to receive federal universal service support, we respectfully request a waiver of the October 1, 2018 deadline to correct any deficiencies.

Please contact Delmond J. H. Won, Executive Officer, at (808) 586-2020 to address any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Melissa Mash
Commission Counsel

MM:mho

Enclosure

c: Dean Nishina, Division of Consumer Advocacy (w/o enclosure)
Steven P. Golden, HTI (w/o enclosure)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Received & Inspected
SEP 24 2018
FCC Mailroom

-----In the Matter of-----)
)
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)
)
Instituting a Proceeding to)
Investigate Whether Designated)
Eligible Telecommunications)
Carriers Participating in the)
High-Cost Program of the)
Universal Service Fund Should be)
Certified By the Commission)
Pursuant to 47 Code of Federal)
Regulations § 54.314(a).)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 2018-0113

DECISION AND ORDER NO. 35689

FILED
2018 SEP 14 P 12:13
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

-----In the Matter of-----)	
)	
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)	Docket No. 2018-0113
)	
Instituting a Proceeding to)	Decision and Order No. 35689
Investigate Whether Designated)	
Eligible Telecommunications)	
Carriers Participating in the)	
High-Cost Program of the)	
Universal Service Fund Should be)	
Certified By the Commission)	
Pursuant to 47 Code of Federal)	
Regulations § 54.314(a).)	
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DECISION AND ORDER

The objective of this docket is for the commission to:

(1) determine whether the eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") parties¹ have each sufficiently complied with the annual ETC certification requirements pertaining to the provision of certain reports established by the

¹The "ETC Party" to this proceeding is HAWAIIAN TELCOM, INC. ("HTI"). The "Parties" to this proceeding are the ETC Party and the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY ("Consumer Advocate"), an ex officio party, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 269-51 and Hawaii Administrative Rules § 6-61-62(a). See: (1) Order No. 35471 "Initiating Investigation," filed in this docket on May 18, 2018 ("Order Initiating Investigation" or "Order No. 35471") at 4-9. No persons timely moved to intervene or participate in this proceeding.

commission in Decision and Order No. 30932, filed on December 28, 2012, in Docket No. 2011-0052 ("Order No. 30932");² and (2) determine whether to certify to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") that all federal high-cost support provided to the ETCs in the state of Hawaii ("State") participating in the federal high-cost support program of the universal service fund ("USF") was used in the preceding calendar year, and will be used in the coming calendar year, only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Title 47 of the C.F.R. § 54.314(a) ("§ 54.314(a) certification").³

²The annual ETC certification requirements are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") § 54.313, "Annual reporting requirements for high-cost recipients," and are hereafter referred to in this Order as the "Annual Reporting Requirements."

³Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), "[s]tates that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended."

In determining whether to provide § 54.314(a) certification to the FCC and the USAC, the commission, based on the record, must be satisfied that there is no uncertainty as to whether all federal high-cost support provided to the ETC party was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).

As discussed below, in this Decision and Order ("Order"), the commission determines that HTI has sufficiently complied with the Annual Reporting Requirements, and, based on the record, the commission is satisfied that there is no uncertainty as to whether all federal high-cost support provided to HTI was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).

The commission concludes that it should certify HTI as a USF high-cost ETC in 2018.

I.

Background

Throughout recent years, the commission has designated: (1) HTI; (2) CORAL WIRELESS, LLC, formerly doing business as MOBI PCS ("Coral"); (3) SANDWICH ISLES COMMUNICATIONS, INC., ("SIC"); and (4) SIC's affiliate, PA MAKANI LLC, dba SANDWICH ISLES WIRELESS ("Pa Makani") as ETCs to take part in the high-cost support program of the USF.⁴

⁴However, in 2015 and 2016, the commission determined that there was uncertainty regarding whether all federal high-cost support provided to SIC and Pa Makani was used and would be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), and as such, concluded that § 54.314(a) certification of SIC and Pa Makani could not be made to the FCC and the USAC at that time. See: Decision and Order No. 33167,

On May 24, 2017, the commission issued Order No. 34568 Initiating Investigation, in Docket No. 2017-0126 ("Order No. 34568"). The commission named HTI and Coral⁵ as parties to the docket, to determine whether they should be certified by the commission in 2017, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).⁶ The commission concluded, among other things, that: there is no uncertainty as to whether all

filed on September 28, 2015, in Docket No. 2015-0083 ("Order No. 33167"); and Decision and Order No. 33955, issued on September 30, 2016 in Docket No. 2016-0093, Docket No. 2016-0120, and Docket No. 2016-0121 (Consolidated) ("Order No. 33955").

The commission made a similar determination relating to Coral in 2016. See: Order No. 33167 (for background), certifying HTI and Coral only; and Order No. 33955, certifying HTI only.

Thereafter, on December 12, 2016, Coral filed a letter request in Docket No. 2016-0417 to surrender its amended certificate of registration ("COR") to provide facilities-based and resold wireless telecommunications services in the State. Coral also advised the commission that it had ceased all operations in the State, and that it had no plans to re-enter the market.

⁵The commission's determination in Order No. 33167, that Coral should be provided with § 54.314(a) certification in 2015, allowed Coral to receive federal high-cost support in 2016. The commission named Coral as a party in Docket No. 2017-0126, because part of determining whether to provide § 54.314(a) certification of an ETC in 2017 depended upon whether all federal high-cost support provided to the ETC in the preceding year (i.e., in 2016) was used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to § 47 C.F.R. 54.314(a).

⁶Order No. 34568 at 7. SIC and Pa Makani did not receive federal high-cost support in 2016. See Order No. 33167 at 5 and 29-30. Neither SIC nor Pa Makani moved to intervene in Docket No. 2017-0126.

federal high-cost support provided to HTI was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), and as such, HTI should be certified by the commission as a USF high-cost ETC in 2017; and there is no uncertainty that all federal high-cost support provided to Coral was used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).⁷

On May 18, 2018, the commission instituted an investigation to determine whether State-designated ETCs participating in the high-cost support program of the USF should be certified by the commission in 2018, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).⁸ As the commission noted in Order No. 35471, the federal rules require state commissions that desire ETCs to receive USF high-cost support to annually submit a certification to the FCC and the USF administrator, USAC, that the ETCs have used and will use the support only for the provision,

⁷Order No. 34568 at 3. Thereafter, on September 29, 2017, the commission issued Decision and Order No. 34850, in Docket No. 2016-0417 ("Order No. 34850"), wherein it approved Coral's voluntary surrender of its amended COR to provide facilities-based and resold wireless telecommunications services within the State.

⁸Order No. 35471, issued in the instant docket.

maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.⁹

By Order No. 35471, the commission established procedural deadlines for this proceeding,¹⁰ based on certain FCC filing deadlines, including the October 1, 2018 federal deadline for state certification of USF high-cost support program recipients.¹¹

⁹Order No. 35471 at 2. See also 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a). Although SIC and Pa Makani are state designated ETCs, neither carrier has been granted § 54.314(a) certification since 2014. Based on the foregoing, including the commission's approval of Coral's voluntary surrender of its amended COR, the commission named HTI as the only ETC party to the instant docket (Order No. 35471 at 4-9).

¹⁰The procedural deadlines included a June 4, 2018 deadline for HTI to file its Annual Certification Requirements ("Annual Certification Requirements" or "ACR report"). HTI timely filed its ACR report on June 4, 2018.

¹¹On July 13, 2018, HTI filed a Motion for Protective Order. On August 8, 2018, the commission issued Protective Order No. 35623, to govern the classification, acquisition, and use of trade secrets and other confidential information produced in this docket.

As the commission's considerations in the instant docket include whether federal high-cost support provided to the ETC will be used in 2019 only for its intended purpose, an ETC which was not granted § 54.314(a) certification in 2017 could still be included as a party in this docket if said ETC becomes certified to receive federal high-cost support for any of the remaining months in 2018.

A.

Current Proceeding

On May 18, 2018, the commission instituted this investigation to determine whether State-designated ETCs participating in the high-cost support program of the USF should be certified by the commission in 2018, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).¹² As the commission noted in Order No. 35471, the federal rules require state commissions that desire ETCs to receive USF high-cost support to annually submit a certification to the FCC and the USF administrator, USAC, that the ETCs have used and will use the support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹³

As noted above, by Order No. 35471, the commission established procedural deadlines for this proceeding. HTI thereafter filed a request for an extension of time to file its FCC Form 481.¹⁴

¹²See Order No. 35471 at 1.

¹³Order No. 35471 at 2. See also 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).

¹⁴On August 6, 2018, the commission issued Order No. 35615, "Granting Request for Extension of Time to File FCC Form 481" ("Order No. 35615"). The commission also issued: (1) Order No. 35633, "Granting Motion to Enlarge Time to File Position Statements," on August 9, 2018, in response to the Consumer Advocate's August 2, 2018 Motion to Enlarge; and (2) Order No. 35649, "Granting Amended Motion to Enlarge Time to File

The Consumer Advocate timely filed its Statement of Position ("SOP") on August 20, 2018, and therein concluded that HTI "has provided sufficient information to justify its certification" as a state-designated ETC participating in the high-cost support program of the Federal USF for 2019, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).¹⁵ HTI did not file a Statement of Position.

By letter dated and filed on August 28, 2018, HTI provided notice that it would not be submitting a Reply Statement of Position. By letter dated and filed on August 29, 2018, the Consumer Advocate informed the commission that it would be relying upon the positions provided in its SOP in lieu of filing a Reply Statement of Position.

For the reasons which follow, the commission, by this Order, determines that HTI has sufficiently complied with the Annual Reporting Requirements. Based on the record, the commission is satisfied that: there is no uncertainty as to whether all federal high-cost support provided to HTI was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).

Position Statements," on August 16, 2018, in response to the Consumer Advocate's August 9, 2018 Amended Motion to Enlarge.

¹⁵Consumer Advocate SOP at 1-2.

Accordingly, the commission certifies to the FCC and the USAC that HTI has used and will use the USF high-cost support for the purposes for which the support is intended, consistent with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a).

II.

Discussion

In Order No. 30932, the commission adopted the Annual Reporting Requirements for State-designated ETCs participating in the USF's high-cost program.¹⁶ These requirements superseded the annual ETC certification requirements previously adopted by the commission on an interim basis in Order No. 30230, filed on February 27, 2012, in Docket No. 2011-0052, which amended the commission's formerly-adopted ETC certification requirements in "Decision and Order No. 22228," filed on January 17, 2006, in Docket No. 05-0243.

The Annual Reporting Requirements (individually, "Reporting Requirement") adopted by the commission in Order No. 30932 are as follows:

- A. Federal Reporting Requirements Applicable to All ETCs Other Than Lifeline-Only ETCs

¹⁶These requirements do not apply to ETCs designated by the commission for the limited and sole purpose of participating in the USF Lifeline program, known as Lifeline-only ETCs. See Decision and Order No. 30932 at 9-13 and 32.

The following federal reporting requirements shall apply to all ETCs in Hawaii other than Lifeline-only ETCs:

1. Provide a copy of all of the ETC's current year filings to the FCC required by 47 C.F.R. Sections 54.313 (annual reporting requirements for high-cost recipients) and 54.1009 (annual reports).
 2. Any carrier affected by the cap shall provide a discussion on whether the carrier has sought or plans to seek a waiver from the \$250/line/month cap on universal service support as specified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.302. If a waiver has been requested, provide the status of the waiver.
- B. Additional Hawaii Reporting Requirements Applicable to All ETCs Other Than Lifeline-Only ETCs

The following additional reporting requirements shall apply to all ETCs in Hawaii other than Lifeline-only ETCs:

1. Provide the percentage of all out-of-state troubles cleared within twenty-four hours of the time such troubles are reported. The standard for this is a minimum of ninety-five percent cleared within twenty-four hours.
2. Provide the number of customer trouble reports per one hundred lines per month. The standard for this is no more than six customer trouble reports per one hundred lines per month.
3. Provide a certification that the carrier will promptly notify its customers, and as appropriate, law enforcement and fire agencies that will be affected when its service will be interrupted for scheduled repairs or maintenance, or if the occurrence of an interruption in service is otherwise known to the carrier.

4. Any ETC that is already filing with the commission the information detailed in Paragraph Nos. 1 to '3, above, on an annual or more frequent basis, is not required to resubmit that information.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), "States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Universal Service Administrator and the FCC stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended."

To assist with the identification of the benefactors of federal high-cost support, excluding frozen Interstate Access Support ("IAS") that is not required to be used for deploying broadband services, ETCs shall provide the following information:

1. The number of locations or customers in each wire center or census block within its ETC service area for the previous calendar year and the anticipated number of locations or customers in each wire center or census block for the coming calendar year;
2. The services available to locations or customers in each wire center or census block within its ETC service area for the previous calendar year and the anticipated services available to locations or customers in each wire center or census block for the coming calendar year; and
3. In addition to the information provided on its progress report pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1):
 - a. Identify all capital, operating and maintenance expenditures for which the carrier has received universal high-cost

support for the previous calendar year, broken down to the wire centers or census blocks, as appropriate.

- b. An update on the status of projects that were planned for the previous calendar year. For each project, provide: the amount of universal high-cost support utilized; a discussion of whether competitive bidding was utilized; a discussion of whether any project related contracts were awarded to entities affiliated to the carrier or in which an officer of the entity is related to an officer of the carrier; a discussion of whether the project plans were changed, and if so, the reasons why; maps detailing the location of the project as well as the wire centers or census blocks of the affected customers; an explanation of the project and how it was used to improve service quality, coverage, or capacity for the intended benefactors; data supporting improvements in service quality, coverage, or capacity. Beginning July 1, 2013, separate progress reports shall be provided for voice and broadband service, to the extent required by federal law.
- c. For the coming calendar year, identify all anticipated capital, operating, and maintenance expenditures on projects that the carrier plans to seek federal high-cost support for, broken down to the wire center level or census block, as appropriate;
- d. For the coming calendar year, maps detailing the location of the project and the wire center or census block of the affected locations or customers, an explanation of the project and how it will be used to improve service quality, coverage, or capacity for the intended benefactors, and the

data supporting the quantification of the benefactors. Beginning June 1, 2013, separate progress reports shall be provided for voice and broadband service to the extent required by federal law; and

e. If in the final year of high-cost support, plans for the following (i.e., future) calendar years are not required.

4. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.320, provide a certification that the carrier will retain, for at least ten years, all records required to demonstrate to auditors that the support received was consistent with the universal service high-cost program rules and that these documents will be available upon request to the FCC and any of its bureaus or offices, Universal Service Administrative Company, and their respective auditors.

C. Requirements for an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier or a Rural Local Exchange Carrier

To confirm whether the carrier is or will charge a limited monthly access recovery charge on its wireline service, carriers are to provide a list of the monthly access recovery charge for each of the carrier's class of service.

Order No. 30932 at 9-13 (citation omitted).

In addition, the commission required that ETCs providing service on Hawaiian Home Lands provide redacted, non-confidential copies of their annual ETC certification reports to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands ("DHHL") and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs ("OHA").¹⁷ The commission's review of HTI's

¹⁷See Order No. 30932 at 32.

filings submitted for certification to receive USF high-cost support is discussed in the sections below.

A.

HTI

HTI is the State's incumbent local exchange carrier, providing a "comprehensive slate" of local and "intraLATA" telecommunication services, statewide.¹⁸ In 1997, the commission approved HTI's application for designation as an ETC to receive federal USF support, effective January 1, 1998.¹⁹

With regard to the Annual Reporting Requirements, the commission stated that because certain requirements need to be re-evaluated to determine applicability and how to measure them given the changes in the telecommunications industry in the State and nationwide, the commission would view the service related requirements of the ETC certification requirements to be targets for achievement as opposed to strict standards, until determined otherwise. Decision and Order No. 31745, filed on December 12, 2013, in Docket No. 2013-0066, at 20-21.

¹⁸See In re Hawaiian Telcom, Inc., Docket No. 2010-0314, Decision and Order, filed on December 22, 2010. See also In re Hawaiian Telcom, Inc., Docket No. 2015-0351, Decision and Order No. 33316, filed on November 4, 2015. Pursuant to Newton's Telecom Dictionary (30th ed. 2016), intraLATA refers to telecommunications services that originate and terminate in the same Local Access and Transport Area.

¹⁹See In re GTE Hawaiian Telephone Company, Incorporated, Docket No. 97-0363, Decision and Order No. 16111, filed on December 4, 1997. HTI was formerly known as GTE Hawaiian Telephone Company, Incorporated.

HTI filed its ACR report with the commission on June 4, 2018,²⁰ requesting that the commission certify to the FCC and USAC that it is eligible to receive USF support in accordance with the FCC's rules.

With regard to the applicable certification requirements set forth in Order No. 30932, HTI provided the necessary information, or indicated how the requirements are currently inapplicable. For instance, HTI filed its Annual Reporting Requirements for High-Cost Recipients with the commission on August 10, 2018, in accordance with the Regulatory Schedule in Order No. 35471 and Order No. 35615.²¹ HTI further states that it "is not affected" by the \$250/line/month cap on USF support as

²⁰See the following: Order No. 35615; and "Hawaiian Telcom, Inc.'s Annual Certification Requirements Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2017, Confidential Attachments A-E, Certification of Steven P. Golden, Verification, and Certificate of Service," filed on June 4, 2018 (collectively, also referred to as "HTI Report"). Consistent with the commission's requirement, a copy of HTI's Report was served on DHHL and OHA. See HTI Report, Certificate of Service. Hereinafter, reference to the HTI Report includes and incorporates Confidential Attachments A, B and E, filed by HTI on August 10, 2018.

²¹As it relates to its obligations under Reporting Requirement A(1) regarding the reporting required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.313, HTI filed copies of its FCC Form 481, and its Rate Floor Data Collection Form with the commission on August 10, 2018. The forms were submitted by HTI to USAC and the FCC on July 16, 2018.

specified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.302, and therefore, the reporting requirement is not applicable to it.²²

HTI provides additional information regarding:

(1) the number of its locations or customers in each wire center or census block within its service area for the previous calendar year, and the anticipated number of locations or customers in each wire center or census block for the coming calendar year; (2) the services available to locations or customers in each wire center or census block within its service area for the previous calendar year, and the anticipated services available to locations or customers in each wire center or census block for the coming calendar year; (3) all capital, operating, and maintenance expenditures for which high-cost support was received for the previous calendar year, by wire center or census block; and (4) updates on the status of projects planned for the previous calendar year.²³

Included among other things in HTI's Report is the Certification of its Vice President, External Affairs,

²²See HTI Report at 6, which relates to Reporting Requirement A(2).

²³The above-referenced information, which relates to Reporting Requirements B(4)(1) through B(4)(3), was filed by HTI on June 4, 2018, and on August 10, 2018 (as confidential attachments A, B, and E), and thus, shall not be further described herein.

Steven P. Golden, who provides the necessary certifications regarding notification of planned service interruptions for repairs or maintenance, and regarding retention of records in response to Reporting Requirements B(3) and B(4)(4).²⁴ As it relates to Reporting Requirement C (applicable to the incumbent LEC or a rural LEC), HTI states that it initiated an access recovery charge ("ARC") on its wireline services, effective July 3, 2012, and provides its current ARC rates.²⁵

In its SOP, the Consumer Advocate recommended that HTI should be certified as a State designated ETC participating in the high-cost support program of the Federal USF for 2019, pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.314(a).²⁶

Based on the foregoing, the commission concludes that HTI has sufficiently complied with the Annual Reporting Requirements adopted in Order No. 30932. As noted by the

²⁴See HTI Report, Certification of Steven P. Golden at 1-2.

²⁵See HTI Report at 9-10.

²⁶See Consumer Advocate SOP at 3. HTI did not file a Statement of Position, and by letter dated and filed on August 28, 2018, provided notice that it would not be submitting a Reply Statement of Position. By letter dated and filed on August 29, 2018, the Consumer Advocate informed the commission that it would be relying upon its SOP in lieu of filing a Reply Statement of Position.

Consumer Advocate, HTI has provided the requisite information and certifications mandated by the commission, as applicable.

HTI has complied with the Annual Reporting Requirements, and based on the record, the commission is satisfied that there is no uncertainty as to whether all federal high-cost support provided was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, and, thus, certification is in the public interest. Therefore, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), the commission certifies HTI as a high-cost ETC in 2018.

B.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions

Based on its review of the entire record, the commission finds that (1) HTI has sufficiently complied with the Annual Reporting Requirements adopted by the commission in Decision and Order No. 30932; and (2) there is no uncertainty as to whether all federal high-cost support provided to HTI was used and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a). As such, the commission concludes that HTI should be certified by the commission as a USF high-cost ETC.

III.

Orders

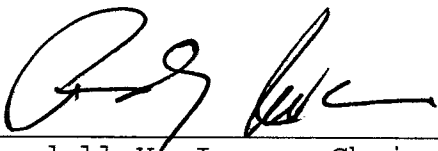
THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

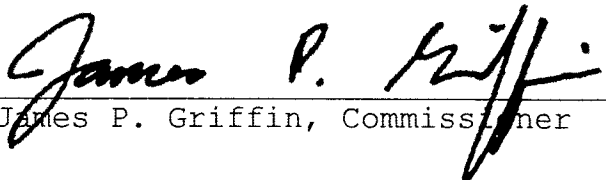
1. Certification pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), that all federal high-cost USF support provided to HTI was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year, only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, is hereby provided to the FCC and the USAC.

2. This docket is closed unless ordered otherwise by the commission.

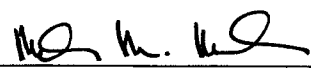
DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii SEP 14 2018.

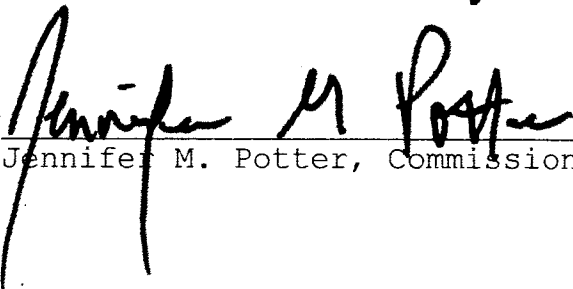
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By 
Randall Y. Iwase, Chair

By 
James P. Griffin, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Melissa M. Mash
Commission Counsel

By 
Jennifer M. Potter, Commissioner

2018-0113.lm

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The foregoing order was served on the date of filing by mail,
postage prepaid, and properly addressed to the following parties:

DEAN NISHINA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
P.O. Box 541
Honolulu, HI 96809

STEVEN P. GOLDEN
VICE-PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
HAWAIIAN TELCOM, INC.
1177 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813